

and I will call up by unanimous consent a joint resolution to condemn yesterday's terrorist acts. That resolution will be addressed by this body under that unanimous consent request with an understanding that we will continue to address it until each Member of this Chamber has had ample time to address this issue as he or she sees fit.

I want to thank all the Members of this body for their patience, their commitment, their understanding, and their resolve during this trying time. Let me assure you, Mr. Speaker, by the time the 435 Members of this body have spoken today, the world will have no doubt about who we are, what we will stand for, and what we will not stand for.

AMERICA SUFFERS TODAY

(Mr. GEPHARDT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, America, our blessed Nation, suffers today. Terribly. Terrorists sought to use fear as a weapon against every person in this Nation. They do not know America, and they do not know Americans. They think freedom is our vulnerability. It is our strength. We will need that strength in the days ahead. Throughout our proud history we have met every challenge, and we will meet this challenge.

Mr. Speaker, we are united in mourning for all of our fellow citizens who were injured and died. I have been so moved while watching television and seeing the heroism, the courage, the patriotism, the bravery, the goodness of our people trying to help one another, save one another, bind up our wounds, and find those who have been lost. Our hearts go out to every person, every family that has been touched by this awful tragedy, and to all the families at this very moment who are enduring an unspeakable, unimaginable horror in their lives.

In times of national tragedy, Americans have always come together, strengthened our resolve, and faced adversity squarely while giving aid and comfort to every victim, every family member, every relative, every person affected by the tragedy. On this occasion, we are once again showing the world what it means to be an American.

We make a solemn pledge that we will honor all of the victims by committing ourselves to defend our land, our families and our freedom. Today we go back to work in Washington, in New York, and all around the country; and we are determined to show the world that America will not be defeated by anyone.

Finally, we will do everything within our power to bring these heinous terrorists to justice, to address this act of horrible, despicable cowardice, and to ensure that something like this never, ever happens to our people again.

We should also recognize that our public spaces, the heart and soul of

American freedom, American ingenuity and American entrepreneurship, were violated yesterday in the most heinous way. We must, in one voice, work to reassure the American people that they are safe on the streets, in the air, and in all of our buildings no matter where they live or work. This Congress, in a nonpartisan way, will work as hard as humanly possible to make sure that our people have the safety they demand and deserve, and that terror is defeated completely and finally.

Make no mistake, this was an act of war against the United States and all of our people; and we will not be divided. All of us, the President, the Congress, and the American people, are today, and will be tomorrow and in all of the tomorrows, totally and completely united in our determination to begin the process of healing and to take swift action to see that the people who committed this horrible crime are properly punished.

May God shed His grace on this great and wonderful country and all of our people.

□ 1015

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will receive 1-minute speeches on each side until 11 o'clock.

AVENGING TERRORIST ATTACK

(Mr. GANSKE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GANSKE. Mr. Speaker, the events of yesterday, September 11, are forever seared into our minds as with branding irons. We grieve for the victims and their families. We pray for them.

Let the word go forth to our enemies. We are united in our resolve to avenge the deaths of our brothers and sisters, our mothers and fathers, our husbands and wives.

In righteousness, the United States Government will hunt down to the ends of the earth the assassins of our innocent kin and strike them down.

TERRORIST ATTACKS WERE ACTS OF WAR

(Mr. SKELTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, yesterday was the darkest day in American history. Pearl Harbor pales in comparison.

I join all other Americans who are shocked and outraged by the terrorist hijackings and attacks on the World Trade Center and on the Pentagon. Last night I saw firsthand the carnage resulting from the attack on the Pentagon.

Let there be no mistake, the United States Government will investigate

and pursue those who were behind this cowardly attack. These terrorist attacks were truly acts of war, and we will respond forcefully and appropriately. The United States will take action against the terrorists and punish those governments that support and harbor such criminals.

This incomprehensible tragedy is a terrible reminder that we must take the threat of terrorism seriously. If Congress and the administration are willing to develop an overall strategy and commit adequate resources, we can prepare an effective defense to protect our American people.

I extend my deepest sympathy to the families of the victims, and I especially express my gratitude to all emergency and law enforcement personnel and other volunteers, many of whom have lost their lives.

I urge all Americans who have a flag, to fly it high and demonstrate we stand united in this moment of tragedy.

CONDEMNING TERRORIST ATTACK

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I join the countless others in this Chamber, in this great Nation, and throughout the world in expressing condolences to the families of the victims of yesterday's deplorable attack. Our thoughts and our prayers are with them.

Mr. Speaker, I also feel a sense of pride for the strength of character and humanity shown by the American people, strength which is shining as a beacon of light, guiding us through this time of darkness and sorrow.

The response of our President, the U.S. Government, and our American society is a testament to this Republic and to our free and democratic system of government. It demonstrates that democracy will always triumph over terrorism. Through the ash-filled sky of New York City, Lady Liberty's torch pierces through as a reminder of American resolve.

I express my full support to the President, his national security team, our military, our intelligence officials as they develop a swift, precise and unequivocal response to the perpetrators of these heinous acts, as well as against those who made it possible by providing them with safe haven, training areas and funding.

We will prevail. God bless the United States of America.

AMERICA WILL SEEK JUSTICE

(Mrs. TAUSCHER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, like many of my colleagues, last night, in spite of the horror and terror of what happened yesterday, I went to bed

knowing where my family, my immediate family, was and with a sense of relief.

That is not true for many of the constituents in my District and in the Bay area, obviously the surviving families of the folks that were on the planes, the rescuers and the victims in New York, and the members of our military and the civilian employees at the Pentagon. Too many Americans last night went to bed not knowing where their families were.

One of my constituents was on United Flight 93 from Boston, and he was able to call his family and tell them that he loved them. We offer the condolences to the Burnett family of San Ramon and the many other families in the Bay area, to be known, that we lost yesterday, great Americans, Americans to whom we pledge that we will not rest, we will not rest until we find the people that damaged the psyche and the hearts of the American people forever. We will not rest and we will find them and we will bring them to justice.

AMERICANS RISE TO THE OCCASION

(Mr. HAYWORTH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, we as Americans this morning must confront the harsh reality. Yesterday, acts of war were committed against our Nation. Accordingly, a state of war exists between the United States and all entities of terrorism in the world.

I welcome the fact that we stand united, because even in this, our darkest hour, we see thousands of real-life examples of what has always been true in our history. America's citizens are seemingly ordinary people who at times of national need and distress rise to the occasion and do extraordinary things.

In that spirit, today, though, Mr. Speaker, I call on our Commander in Chief and the American people to take any and all steps necessary to eradicate this evil from the face of our planet.

FAILURE OF INTELLIGENCE NETWORK

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I condemn this tragic act of war, like all, but yesterday showed the failings of American policy, folks. This attack was planned for months, maybe years. Where is our intelligence network, our human intelligence network?

The fact is, ladies and gentlemen, it is easy to attack the United States of America. Our borders are so wide open, terrorists could cross them with a nuclear warhead, and it may be unpopular

to say, but I believe America's foreign policy in the Mideast is so one-sided that we endanger now American citizens. We must be fair in our policies.

I condemn these tragic acts. The Congress must now look in the mirror and do what is right and to be fair. My heart goes out to all of the victims and families of victims of this tragic war against America.

ERADICATE TERROR BY ERADICATING TERRORISTS

(Mr. SWEENEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, like all Americans, all America suffered losses yesterday, but for some of us it was more personal, since friends were lost in yesterday's incidents.

Years from now, our grandchildren will ask where we were and what happened on September 11, 2001, but the most important question all will ask us was what we did about it. Our answer must be, and today we begin that process, and importantly begin that process, of recognizing that the only way to eradicate terror is to eradicate terrorists.

As a New Yorker and an American, my outrage is only contained by the knowledge that the cowards who were responsible for this act will find themselves at the end of the swift fist of American justice. I see a united America, I see it in my district where people have pulled together to offer their equipment, to offer their prayers, to offer their blood. But let us make it clear that Americans are also saying they expect us to change, they expect us to move forward forcefully and end what we saw yesterday.

JUSTICE WILL PREVAIL

(Mr. LANGEVIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, today I join with my colleagues in expressing our sincere condolences to those who have lost Americans in one of the most tragic and cowardly attacks on this country in our history. Make no mistake about it, this was an act of cowardice, an act of terrorism that struck at the heart of our Nation. This was an act of war against the United States.

But, make no mistake about it, we as Americans and we as a Nation stand united. Those who have committed this act will find no safe harbor. We stand united in finding out who was responsible and taking quick and decisive action in response.

This type of action has happened once before, a cowardice attack at Pearl Harbor. They thought without question that they would prevail, but they did not. All they succeeded in doing is waking a sleeping giant. Well, they have done it once before. The last

time, this Nation became the most powerful Nation on earth. And in a short time this Nation, when those who are found responsible, will again loose the fateful lightning of our terrible swift sword and justice will prevail.

JUSTICE WILL BE DONE

(Mr. ISSA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I woke up this morning, after not getting much sleep last night, with a broken heart and a tremendous feeling of sadness and anger. There are still so many questions unanswered. When we see these horrible events, feel these tremendous feelings and listen to these unspeakable stories, we must remember that we are Americans. Throughout history, Americans have shown to the world what freedom is. And, more importantly, we have shown what freedom costs. Yesterday we once again paid that cost.

While we share this planet with evil, we will not let evil triumph. To the victims and to the friends and families of those who have perished, I want you to know that your country, your American family, is praying for you and shares this burden with you. But to those responsible for these unspeakable horrors our country has endured, I say to you: You should not sleep another night with peace. You should not eat another meal in comfort. You must look over your shoulder because we will find you. We will find you and justice will be done.

UNITED STATES HAS SUFFERED WORST ATTACK SINCE PEARL HARBOR

(Mr. McNULTY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, I paraphrase a great President: Tuesday, September 11, 2001, is a day which will live in infamy, because on that day we suffered the worst attack against the United States since Pearl Harbor.

Words fail us at this time. So I suggest to the American people that we do exactly what the President suggested last night, that we pray for all of the innocent victims of this terrorist act, that we express our gratitude to all of the firefighters, police officers and other emergency personnel who lost their lives and who are putting their lives on the line today to rescue those left in the rubble.

□ 1030

Finally, that we resolve, along with the President, to bring these cowards to justice. And, remember my friends, a terrorist by definition is a coward. It is a person who cannot get what he wants by the power of persuasion, and therefore resorts to killing innocent men, women, and children.